

~~SECRET~~

FRP: 2. . . . .

BRIEF

PAGE 001

TOT: [REDACTED]

BRIEF  
TO: PRIORITY LATIN AMERICA BRIEF.

WNINTEL

SUBJECT: HEREWITH SUPPORT CABLE FOR LATIN AMERICA BRIEF  
FOR MONDAY, 15 OCTOBER 1990.

SUBJECT: LATIN AMERICA BRIEF [REDACTED] FOR MONDAY, 15 OCTOBER 1990.

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## 1. HAITI: EXTREMISTS THREATEN ELECTION MOMENTUM [REDACTED]

## 1. HAITI: EXTREMISTS THREATEN ELECTION MOMENTUM [REDACTED]

DESPITE A PROMISING START AND NEW FOREIGN SUPPORT, HAITI'S ELECTION REMAINS HOSTAGE TO THE THREAT OF VIOLENCE FROM EXTREMIST FORMER DUVALIERISTS. [REDACTED]

THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON WEDNESDAY AUTHORIZED SENDING AS MANY AS 420 OBSERVERS AND SECURITY ADVISERS TO MONITOR THE ELECTION, SET FOR 16 DECEMBER, AND FRANCE APPROVED A \$2 MILLION PACKAGE OF ELECTION-RELATED AID. [REDACTED] VOTER REGISTRATION, WHICH ENDS ON 26 OCTOBER, IS OFF TO A GOOD START.

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**SECRET**

PAGE 002

TOT:

PARTICULARLY IN THE CITIES. ALMOST 10 PERCENT OF HAITI'S 3 MILLION  
ELIGIBLE VOTERS REGISTERED LAST WEEKEND.

FORMER DUVALIERIST MINISTER LAFONTANT, HOWEVER, HAS CONTINUED  
HIS QUEST FOR THE PRESIDENCY, DESPITE GOVERNMENT THREATS TO ARREST  
HIM ON AN IMMIGRATION TECHNICALITY.

ELECTION SECURITY WILL DEPEND HEAVILY ON THE HAITIAN ARMY,  
WHICH IS BADLY EQUIPPED, UNDISCIPLINED,ILL HOUSED, AND POORLY FED.  
LAFONTANT HAS MANY FOLLOWERS IN THE ARMY.

THE PRESENCE OF INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS WILL HELP  
BUILD POPULAR SUPPORT FOR THE ELECTION, BUT THOSE UNARMED TEAMS ARE  
UNLIKELY TO GREATLY DETER THE EXTREMISTS. THE GOVERNMENT PROBABLY  
STILL NEEDS AN ADDITIONAL \$3-4 MILLION TO FINANCE THE ELECTION, BUT  
FOREIGN DONORS WILL BE RELUCTANT UNTIL THEY GAUGE THE SUCCESS OF THE  
REGISTRATION PROCESS AND THE THREAT POSED BY EXTREMISTS.

SUCCESSFUL ELECTION HOPES FOR A  
REST ON WHETHER THE ARMY CONTAINS  
VIOLENCE. FAILURE BY THE ARMY WOULD QUICKLY DAMPEN FOREIGN AND  
DOMESTIC COMMITMENT TO THE ELECTION.

FOREIGN AID FOR THE HAITIAN ELECTION SLOW TO DEVELOP.

MOST DONORS ARE OPTING TO PROVIDE "IN KIND" ASSISTANCE. THE  
US HAS BEEN THE LARGEST CONTRIBUTOR--PROMISING A TOTAL OF \$6.5  
MILLION AND IS THE ONLY DONOR TO EARMARK ANY PORTION OF ITS  
ASSISTANCE--THROUGH THE OAS--FOR THE PURCHASE OF SECURITY-RELATED  
EQUIPMENT. THE RECENT FRENCH COMMITMENT OF \$2 MILLION INCLUDES FUNDS  
FOR PRINTING AND FOR VOTER EDUCATION. VENEZUELA IS WILLING TO SELL  
HAITI ON CONCESSIONARY TERMS AND MAY PROVIDE MOTOR SCOOTERS AND  
OFFICE EQUIPMENT. CANADA HAS PROMISED \$800,000 WORTH OF PAPER,  
BALLOT BOXES, AND PRIVACY SCREENS. GERMANY HAS TO DECIDE WHAT  
MATERIALS TO OFFER, BUT OFFICIALS HAVE SAID THEIR CONTRIBUTION WILL  
BE WORTH SOME \$660,000. A FEW CARIBBEAN AND LATIN COUNTRIES HAVE  
ANNOUNCED WILLINGNESS TO SEND OBSERVERS. ENOUGH  
AID HAS BEEN COMMITTED BY FOREIGN DONORS SO FAR TO FINANCE THE  
PROCESS ONLY AS FAR AS THE END OF VOTER REGISTRATION.

**SECRET**